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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

-v.-

ALL THAT LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND  
LOCATED AT 19 DUCK POND LANE,  
SOUTHAMPTON, NEW YORK 11968,  
TOGETHER WITH ITS BUILDINGS,  
APPURTENANCES, IMPROVEMENTS,  
FIXTURES, ATTACHMENTS, AND  
EASEMENTS;

UNIT 21 LOCATED IN THE BUILDING AT  
515 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW  
YORK 10022, TOGETHER WITH ITS  
APPURTENANCES, IMPROVEMENTS,  
FIXTURES, ATTACHMENTS, EASEMENTS,  
AND INTERESTS IN COMMON ELEMENTS  
THERE TO;

UNIT 2I LOCATED IN THE BUILDING AT  
515 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW  
YORK 10022, TOGETHER WITH ITS  
APPURTENANCES, IMPROVEMENTS,  
FIXTURES, ATTACHMENTS, EASEMENTS,  
AND INTERESTS IN COMMON ELEMENTS  
THERE TO;

VERIFIED CIVIL COMPLAINT  
FOR FORFEITURE

23 Civ. \_\_\_\_ ( )

UNIT 7002 PH2 OF PALAZZO DEL SOL,  
 LOCATED AT 7002 FISHER ISLAND DRIVE,  
 MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA 33109,  
 TOGETHER WITH ITS APPURTENANCES,  
 IMPROVEMENTS, FIXTURES,  
 ATTACHMENTS, EASEMENTS, AND  
 INTERESTS IN COMMON ELEMENTS  
 THERETO; AND

UNITS 7182 AND 7183 OF PALAZZO DEL  
 MARE, AS COMBINED INTO ONE UNIT  
 AND KNOWN AS 7183 FISHER ISLAND  
 DRIVE, MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA 33109,  
 TOGETHER WITH ITS APPURTENANCES,  
 IMPROVEMENTS, FIXTURES,  
 ATTACHMENTS, EASEMENTS, AND  
 INTERESTS IN COMMON ELEMENTS  
 THERETO,

*Defendants-in-rem.*

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Plaintiff United States of America, by its attorney, Damian Williams, United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, for its verified civil complaint, alleges, upon information and belief, as follows:

# **I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

1. The United States of America brings this civil action seeking forfeiture of the *Defendants-in-rem*, various real properties located in New York, New York, Southampton, New York, and Fisher Island, Florida, currently worth approximately \$75 million.

2. Between in or about 2008 and in or about 2017, shell companies beneficially owned and controlled by Viktor Vekselberg, a Russian oligarch, purchased the *Defendants-in-rem*. Vekselberg continued to beneficially own the *Defendants-in-rem* after on or about April 6, 2018, when the U.S. Department of Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (“OFAC”) sanctioned

Vekselberg by designating him as a Specially Designated National (“SDN”). Before OFAC designated Vekselberg as an SDN, Vladimir Voronchenko, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko” (who was indicted in the Southern District of New York in February 2023), and others caused U.S. dollar payments to be made to maintain and retain the Defendants-*in-rem* for the benefit of Vekselberg. Voronchenko continued doing so after OFAC designated Vekselberg as an SDN, even though Voronchenko knew about that designation. In fact, after on or about April 6, 2018, Voronchenko and others sent international wire transfers of at least \$4 million to maintain and retain the Defendants-*in-rem* and attempted to sell two of the Defendants-*in-rem*, all without disclosure to or approval from OFAC, in violation of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (“IEEPA”), codified at Title 50, United States Code, Sections 1701-1707. As set forth below, the Defendants-*in-rem* are thus subject to forfeiture to the United States of America as both the proceeds of sanctions violations, and as property involved in international money laundering in promotion of sanctions violations.

## **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

3. This action is brought pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981(a)(1)(A) and 981(a)(1)(C) by the United States of America seeking the forfeiture of the following real Defendants-*in-rem*:

- a. All that lot or parcel of land, located at 19 Duck Pond Lane, Southampton, New York 11968, together with its buildings, appurtenances, improvements, fixtures, attachments, and easements (the “Southampton House”);
- b. Unit 21, located in the building at 515 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022, together with its appurtenances, improvements, fixtures, attachments, easements, and interest in common elements thereto (“Park Avenue-1”);

- c. Unit 2I, located in the building at 515 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022, together with its appurtenances, improvements, fixtures, attachments, easements, and interest in common elements thereto (“Park Avenue-2” and, together with Park Avenue-1, the “Park Avenue Apartments”);<sup>1</sup>
- d. Unit 7002 PH2 of Palazzo Del Sol, located at 7002 Fisher Island Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33109, together with its appurtenances, improvements, fixtures, attachments, easements, and interest in common elements thereto (the “Fisher Island Penthouse”); and
- e. Units 7182 and 7183 of Palazzo Del Mare, as combined into one unit and known as 7183 Fisher Island Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33109, together with its appurtenances, improvements, fixtures, attachments, easements, and interest in common elements thereto (the “Fisher Island Condominium”)

(a. through e., collectively, the “Defendants-*in-rem*”).

4. This Court has original jurisdiction over this forfeiture action pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Sections 1345 and 1355.

5. Venue is proper pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 1395 to the extent two of the Defendants-*in-rem* are located within the judicial district for the Southern District of New York. Venue is also proper pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 1355(b)(1)(A) because some of the acts and omissions giving rise to the forfeiture of the Defendants-*in-rem* took place in the Southern District of New York.

6. As set forth below, the Defendants-*in-rem* are subject to forfeiture to the United States (i) pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C), as real property derived from proceeds traceable to a violation of, and a conspiracy to violate, the IEEPA, 50 U.S.C. §§ 1701 *et seq.*; Exec. Order Nos. 13660, 13661, 13662, and 13685; and 31 C.F.R. § 589.201;

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<sup>1</sup> For the avoidance of doubt, Unit 2I is “2i.”

(ii) pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(A), as real property involved in, and a conspiracy to commit, international money laundering to promote violations of the IEEPA, 18 U.S.C. §§ 1956(a)(2)(A) and 1956(h); and (iii) pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(A), as assets of an entity involved in, and which conspired to commit, international money laundering to promote violations of the IEEPA, 18 U.S.C. §§ 1956(a)(2)(A) and 1956(h) (collectively, the “Subject Offenses”).

### **III. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

7. As set forth below, Vladimir Voronchenko, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” and others participated in (a) a scheme to violate the IEEPA by engaging in transactions to maintain and retain the Defendants-*in-rem* for the benefit of Russian oligarch Viktor Vekselberg, and to attempt the illegal transfer of ownership of the Defendants-*in-rem*, after Vekselberg was designated as an SDN by OFAC, and (b) a scheme to commit international money laundering to promote the IEEPA violations. A Grand Jury sitting in the Southern District of New York indicted Voronchenko for this conduct in February 2023.

#### **A. The Russia Sanctions Regime**

8. Through the IEEPA, the President of the United States was granted authority to deal with unusual and extraordinary threats to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. 50 U.S.C. §§ 1701, 1702.

9. Pursuant to the IEEPA, “[i]t shall be unlawful for a person to violate, attempt to violate, conspire to violate, or cause a violation of any license, order, regulation, or prohibition issued under this chapter,” and “[a] person who willfully commits, willfully attempts to commit, or willfully conspires to commit, or aids or abets in the commission of, an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of this section shall” be guilty of a crime. 50 U.S.C. § 1705(a), (c).

10. In 2014, pursuant to his authorities under the IEEPA, the President issued Executive Order 13660 (“E.O. 13660”), which declared a national emergency with respect to the situation in the Crimea region of Ukraine. Exec. Order No. 13660 (Mar. 6, 2014), 79 Fed. Reg. 13493 (Mar. 10, 2014). Specifically, E.O. 13660 found that the actions and policies of certain persons, including persons who have asserted governmental authority in the region of Crimea without the authorization of the Government of Ukraine—which undermine democratic processes and institutions in Ukraine; threaten its peace, security, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; and contribute to the misappropriation of its assets—constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. *Id.* at 13493. To address this national emergency, E.O. 13660 blocked all property and interests in property that were then, or thereafter came, within the United States or the possession or control of any United States person, of individuals determined by the Secretary of the Treasury to meet one or more enumerated criteria. *Id.* § 1. These criteria include, but are not limited to, individuals determined to be responsible for or complicit in, or who engage in, actions or policies that threaten the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine, or who materially assist, sponsor, or provide financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to, individuals or entities engaging in such activities. *Id.* § 1(a)(i)-(v). E.O. 13660 prohibits, among other things, transferring, paying, exporting, withdrawing, or otherwise dealing in any interest in property in the United States owned by a person whose property and interests in property are blocked (a “blocked person”), as well as the making of any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services by a United States person to, or for the benefit of a blocked person, and the receipt of any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services by a United States person from any such

blocked person. *Id.* §§ 1, 4. For the purposes of E.O. 13660, the term “United States person” includes, among others, any person in the United States. *Id.* § 6(c).

11. The national emergency declared in E.O. 13660 with respect to the situation in Ukraine has remained in continuous effect since 2014 and was most recently continued for another year commencing March 2, 2022. *See Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Ukraine*, 87 Fed. Reg. 12,387 (Mar. 4, 2022).

12. The President on multiple occasions has expanded the scope of the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13660, including through (a) Executive Order No. 13661 (Mar. 16, 2014), 79 Fed. Reg. 15,533 (Mar. 19, 2014); (b) Executive Order No. 13662 (Mar. 20, 2014), 79 Fed. Reg. 16,169 (Mar. 24, 2014); and (c) Executive Order No. 13685 (Dec. 19, 2014, 79 Fed. Reg. 77,357 (Dec. 24, 2014).

13. Executive Order Nos. 13660, 13661, 13662, and 13685 (the “Executive Orders”) are implemented as part of a comprehensive set of regulations promulgated by OFAC and now collectively referred to as the “Ukraine-/Russia-Related Sanctions Regulations.” 87 Fed. Reg. 26,094 (May 2, 2022), 31 C.F.R. Part 589.

14. The Ukraine-/Russia-Related Sanctions Regulations (“Ukraine Sanctions Regulations”) incorporate by reference the prohibited transactions set forth in the Executive Orders. 31 C.F.R. § 589.201.

15. The Ukraine Sanctions Regulations also block the property and interests in property of individuals and entities listed in the Annex to Executive Order No. 13661 or of those determined by the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the U.S. Secretary of State, to meet the criteria in the Executive Orders.

16. The Ukraine Sanctions Regulations further provide that the names of persons designated by OFAC pursuant to the Executive Orders, whose property and interests are therefore blocked, are published in the Federal Register and incorporated into the SDN and Blocked Persons List (the “SDN List”), which is published on OFAC’s website. *Id.* notes 1 & 2.

17. Unless otherwise authorized or exempt, transactions conducted by U.S. persons, including U.S. financial institutions, or occurring in the United States, are prohibited if they involve transferring, paying, exporting, withdrawing, or otherwise dealing in the “property” or “interests in property” of an entity or individual listed on the SDN List because of the Ukraine Sanctions Regulations. 31 C.F.R. § 589.201.

18. According to the Ukraine Sanctions Regulations, a person whose property and interest in property is blocked pursuant to the Executive Orders is treated as having an interest in all property and interests in property of any entity in which the person owns, directly or indirectly, a 50 percent or greater interest. Accordingly, such an entity is deemed a person whose property and interests in property are blocked, regardless of whether the name of the entity is incorporated into OFAC’s SDN List. 31 C.F.R. § 589.303 note 1, and § 589.411.

19. In addition to blocking the property and interests in property of persons and entities on the SDN List, the Ukraine Sanctions Regulations prohibit “the making of any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services by, to, or for the benefit of” any person or entity on the SDN List. *E.g.*, Exec. Order No. 13662, at § 4(a).

20. An individual or entity may obtain a license from OFAC to transact with an individual or entity on the SDN List. Transacting with an SDN without first obtaining a license from OFAC is a violation of the IEEPA, 50 U.S.C. § 1705(a).



21. On or about April 15, 2021, pursuant to his authorities under the IEEPA, the President issued Executive Order No. 14024, which declared a national emergency with respect to the harmful foreign activities undertaken by the Russian Federation. To address this national emergency, the President blocked all property and interest in property that were then or thereafter came within the United States or the possession or control of any United States person, or individuals determined by the Secretary of the Treasury to meet one or more enumerated criteria, including individuals determined to operate in the technology or defense sectors of the Russian Federation economy. As with the Executive Orders, OFAC issued certain regulations related to Executive Order 14024. 86 Fed. Reg. 20,249, 31 C.F.R. § 587.

**B. Voronchenko and Vekselberg, and Vekselberg's Designation as an SDN**

22. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Vladimir Voronchenko, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” was a Russian national and legal permanent resident of the United States who resided at various times in New York, New York; Southampton, New York; Fisher Island, Florida; and Russia.

23. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Viktor Vekselberg, a Russian national, was the founder and chairman of the board of the directors of the Renova Group, a Russian conglomerate comprised of investment funds and management companies in the energy sector.

24. On or about April 6, 2018, OFAC designated Vekselberg as an SDN pursuant to Executive Order No. 13662 for “operating in the energy sector of the Russian Federation economy.” 83 Fed. Reg. 19,139 (May 1, 2018); *see also* U.S. Dep’t of Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List, available at <https://www.treasury.gov/ofac/downloads/sdnlist.pdf> (accessed Feb. 22, 2023).

25. On or about March 11, 2022, pursuant to Executive Order No. 14024(a), OFAC (i) re-designated Vekselberg as an SDN “for having acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, [the Government of the Russian Federation]” and also for “operating or having operated in the technology sector of the Russian Federation economy,” and (ii) blocked Vekselberg’s yacht and private airplane. 87 Fed. Reg. 15,311 (Mar. 17, 2022).

**C. Voronchenko and Others Help Vekselberg-Owned Shell Companies Purchase the Defendants-*in-rem***

26. Between in or about 2008 and in or about 2017, Vekselberg, through a series of shell companies, purchased the Defendants-*in-rem* with the help of Voronchenko.

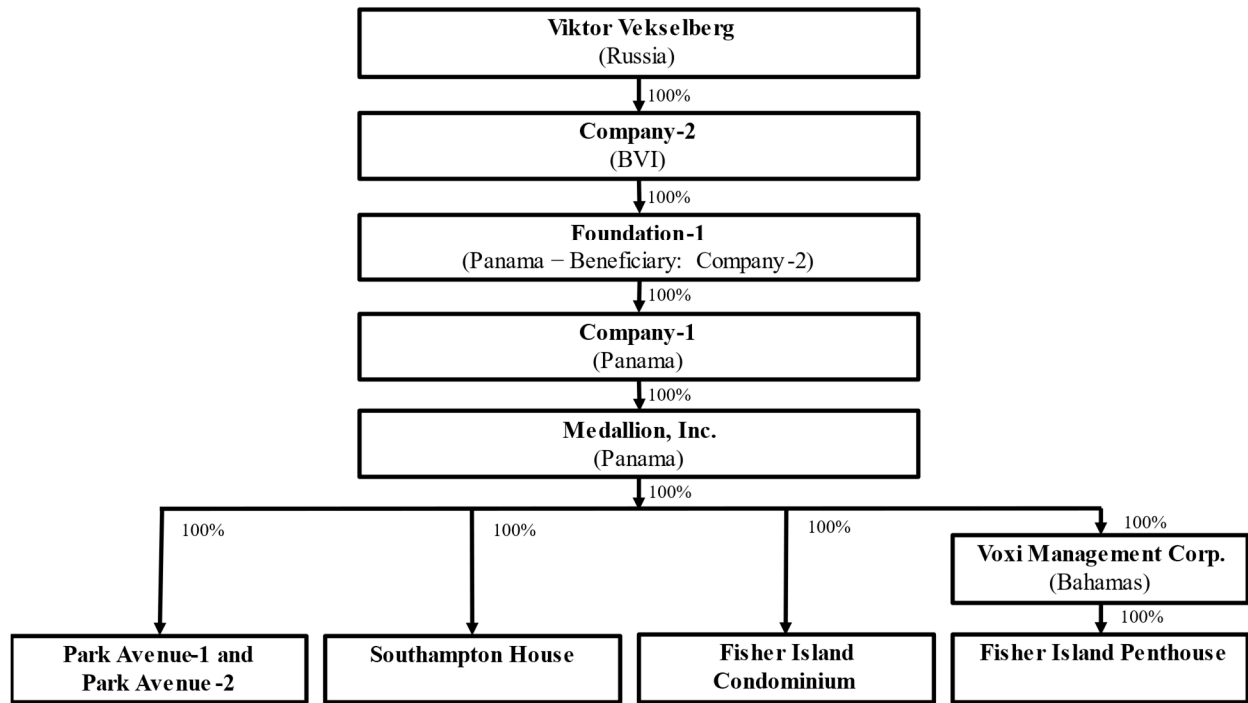
27. In particular, Vekselberg used two shell companies to purchase the Defendants-*in-rem*: Medallion, Inc. (“Medallion”), a Panamanian company, and Voxi Management Corp. (“Voxi”), a Bahamian company.

28. In or about 2008, Medallion purchased the Southampton House for approximately \$11.4 million. In or about 2008, Medallion purchased Park Avenue-1 for approximately \$11 million. In or about 2010, Medallion purchased the two units now comprising the Fisher Island Condominium for approximately \$6.2 million. In or about 2012, Medallion purchased Park Avenue-2 for approximately \$610,000. And in or about 2017, Voxi, which was wholly owned by Medallion, purchased the Fisher Island Penthouse for approximately \$31.2 million.

29. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Vekselberg owned and controlled Medallion, and in turn Voxi, through a series of additional shell companies. Medallion was wholly owned by another Panamanian company (“Company-1”), which, in turn, was wholly owned by a Panamanian foundation (“Foundation-1”). The first and exclusive beneficiary of

Foundation-1 was a British Virgin Islands company (“Company-2”), of which Vekselberg was the sole owner.

30. In sum, at all times relevant to this Complaint, the Defendants-*in-rem* were beneficially owned by Vekselberg as shown below:



31. Voronchenko—who was aware that Vekselberg was the ultimate beneficial owner of Medallion and Voxi, and thus the Defendants-*in-rem*—facilitated the purchase of each of the Defendants-*in-rem*. To do so, Voronchenko retained an attorney (the “Attorney”), who practiced in New York, New York, to represent Medallion and Voxi in the acquisition of the Defendants-*in-rem*. Moreover, at various times relevant to this Indictment, Voronchenko lived in Park Avenue-1, the Southampton House, and the Fisher Island Apartment.

32. For example, in connection with its consideration of Medallion’s offer to purchase Park Avenue-1 in 2008, the board of managers of the condominium in which Park Avenue-1 was located asked the Attorney, “1) Who is behind the purchase of the Apartment?

2) What is the nature of their assets? 3) Who is going to live in the apartment? And what is their relationship to the purchaser?” The Attorney replied by letter, dated January 18, 2008: “[T]he beneficial owner of Unit 21 [*i.e.*, Park Avenue-1] will be Mr. Viktor Vekselberg. The occupant of the Unit for the next several years will be his cousin, friend and business colleague Vladimir Voronchenko [and Voronchenko’s family].” The Attorney’s letter attached a letter from a director of Medallion that stated, “Mr. Viktor F. Vekselberg . . . is the Ultimate beneficial owner of [Medallion].” The Attorney’s letter also attached a *Forbes* article that listed Vekselberg as the 44th-richest person in the world, with a net worth of \$10 billion.

33. In or about 2012, in a lawsuit in the Southern District of New York related to renovations of Park Avenue-1, Voronchenko testified under oath at a deposition that Medallion was a real estate investment company and that Vekselberg was the “main owner of this huge group,” including Medallion. Voronchenko denied any ownership of Medallion.

34. In connection with the purchase of the Fisher Island Condominium in or about May 2010, Medallion, Voronchenko, and Voronchenko’s family member (“Family Member-1”) each applied for membership in a private club (the “Club”) on Fisher Island where the Fisher Island Condominium is located. As part of that application, the Attorney submitted an affidavit from a director of Medallion, which stated, in part, that the “ultimate beneficial owner of [Medallion] is Viktor Vekselberg,” and that Voronchenko and his family would be living in the Fisher Island Condominium “not pursuant to a lease or compensated occupancy of any kind.”

**D. Voronchenko and Others Engage in U.S. Dollar Transactions Using Shell Companies to Maintain the Properties After Vekselberg’s Designation as an SDN**

35. Before and after Vekselberg’s designation as an SDN, Voronchenko hired the Attorney to manage the finances of the Defendants-*in-rem*, including to pay common charges,

property taxes, insurance premiums, and other fees associated with the Defendants-*in-rem*. The Attorney conducted these U.S. dollar transactions using the Attorney's interest on lawyer's trust account located in New York, New York ("IOLTA Account"), and in so doing maintained and retained the properties on behalf of Vekselberg, including after Vekselberg's OFAC designation.

36. Prior to Vekselberg's designation as an SDN on or about April 6, 2018, between approximately February 2009 and March 2018, Medallion and Company-1—both of which were ultimately beneficially owned and controlled by Vekselberg—sent approximately 90 wire transfers totaling approximately \$18.5 million to the IOLTA Account. At the direction of Voronchenko and another family member of Voronchenko ("Family Member-2"), who lived in Russia, the Attorney used these funds to make various U.S. dollar payments to maintain and service the Defendants-*in-rem*. These payments included, but were not limited to, tax payments, common charge payments, insurance premium payments, and other maintenance costs.

37. Voronchenko became aware of Vekselberg's designation as an SDN on or about April 6, 2018. In response, on or about May 9, 2018, Voronchenko sent a WhatsApp message to an associate ("Individual-1") with a link to the website of a law firm in Washington, D.C. that specialized only in OFAC sanctions. On or about December 8, 2018, Voronchenko sent a WhatsApp message to Individual-1 containing a link to an article that discussed Vekselberg's designation as an SDN.

38. After Vekselberg's designation as an SDN on or about April 6, 2018, Medallion and Company-1—both ultimately beneficially owned and controlled by Vekselberg—stopped wiring funds to the Attorney's IOLTA Account. Instead, starting in or about June 2018, Voronchenko and Family Member-2 changed the source of the funds used to maintain and service the Defendants-*in-rem* to two Voronchenko-linked sources. Specifically, the IOLTA Account

received international wires from a bank account in the Bahamas held in the name of Smile Holding Ltd., a shell company owned and controlled by Voronchenko, and from a Russian bank account held in the name of a relative of Voronchenko who lived in Russia (“Individual-2”). Between approximately June 2018 and March 2022, Smile Holding Ltd. and Individual-2 collectively sent approximately 25 international wire transfers totaling approximately \$4 million to the IOLTA Account in New York, New York. Although the source of the payments changed after the imposition of sanctions on Vekselberg, the management of the payments remained the same as before. At Voronchenko’s and Family Member-2’s direction, the Attorney continued to use these funds to make various U.S. dollar payments to maintain and service the Defendants-*in-rem* between approximately June 2018 and March 2022, including to pay taxes, common charges, insurance premiums, and other maintenance costs. No licenses from OFAC were applied for or issued for these payments.

39. For example, on or about June 8 and 15, 2018, Individual-2 wired a total approximately \$75,000 for purported “living expenses” to the IOLTA Account. Over the next two months, beginning on approximately June 10, 2018, the Attorney paid bills and expenses related to the Defendants-*in-rem*, including electric bills, security company bills, common charges, tax payments, landscaping and gardening bills, gas bills, and insurance bills.

40. Also by way of example, on or about June 27, 2019, Smile Holding Ltd. wired approximately \$150,000 to the IOLTA Account. Over the next two months, beginning on approximately June 28, 2019, the Attorney paid bills and expenses related to the Defendants-*in-rem*, including electric bills, pool bills, landscaping and gardening bills, gas bills, common charges, and pest control bills.

41. Throughout this period, the Attorney continued to communicate with

Voronchenko, Family Member-2, Individual-1, and Individual-2 about ongoing payments related to the Defendants-*in-rem* and the need for funds to make those payments.

**E. Voronchenko's and Other's Attempted Sales of the Southampton House and the Park Avenue Apartments in Violation of U.S. Sanctions**

42. In or about August 2020, Voronchenko and others attempted to sell the Southampton House. Medallion, represented by the Attorney, entered into an agreement with a real estate brokerage firm to sell the Southampton House, which was ultimately listed for sale for approximately \$14.6 million in or about September 2020. No license from OFAC was applied for or issued for the sale of the Southampton House.

43. In or about December 2021, Voronchenko attempted to sell the Park Avenue Apartments. Medallion entered into an agreement with a real estate brokerage firm to sell the Park Avenue Apartments jointly, which were ultimately listed for sale for approximately \$14.6 million in or about early 2022. The Attorney signed the listing agreement on behalf of Medallion, and a family member of Voronchenko communicated primarily with the brokerage about the listing. No license from OFAC was applied for or issued for the sale of the Park Avenue Apartments.

**F. Voronchenko's Flight After Receiving a Grand Jury Subpoena**

44. On or about May 13, 2022, federal agents served Voronchenko at the Fisher Island Condominium with a subpoena issued by a Grand Jury sitting in the Southern District of New York, which called for his personal appearance for testimony and his production of documents on or about May 31, 2022, including related to the Defendants-*in-rem*.

45. On or about May 15, 2022, two days following receipt of the Grand Jury subpoena, Voronchenko sent a WhatsApp message to Individual-1 containing a link to an article,

dated May 15, 2022, discussing the OFAC sanctions against Vekselberg.

46. Approximately nine days after receiving the Grand Jury subpoena, on or about May 22, 2022, Voronchenko booked and took a flight from Miami, Florida to Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Voronchenko's return flight to Miami was scheduled for on or about May 30, 2022, but he did not take this flight. Instead, on May 25, 2022, Voronchenko flew to Moscow, Russia, where he remains as of the date of this Complaint.

47. Voronchenko did not appear before the Grand Jury on or about May 31, 2022, as required by the Grand Jury subpoena. Nor did he appear at subsequent dates to which his appearance was adjourned, on or about June 14, 2022 and June 30, 2022.

48. Voronchenko still has not returned to the United States.

**G. Voronchenko's Indictment**

49. On or about February 7, 2023, a grand jury sitting in the Southern District of New York returned an indictment charging Voronchenko with (i) conspiracy to violate the IEEPA, in violation of 50 U.S.C. § 1705; Executive Order Nos. 13660, 13661, and 13662, and 31 C.F.R. § 589.201, (ii) violation of the IEEPA, in violation of 50 U.S.C. § 1705; Executive Orders 13660, 13661, and 13662, 31 C.F.R. § 589.201, and 18 U.S.C. § 2, (iii) conspiracy to commit international money laundering, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h), (iv) international money laundering, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1956(a)(2)(A) and 2, and (v) contempt of court, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 401(3) and 2 (the "Indictment"). A copy of the Indictment is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference. As the grand jury found, there is probable cause to believe that Voronchenko and others committed each of the offenses listed in the Indictment.

\* \* \*



50. Because the Defendants-*in-rem* represent property that is the proceeds of IEEPA violations, and is property involved in international money laundering in promotion of the same IEEPA violations, the Defendants-*in-rem* are subject to forfeiture to the United States as charged below.

#### **IV. CLAIMS FOR FORFEITURE**

##### **Claim One**

##### **Forfeiture Under 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) (Proceeds Traceable to IEEPA Conspiracy)**

51. Paragraphs 1 through 50 of this Complaint are repeated and re-alleged as if fully set forth herein.

52. Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) subjects to civil forfeiture “[a]ny property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to a violation of . . . any offense constituting ‘specified unlawful activity’ (as defined in section 1956(c)(7) of this title), or a conspiracy to commit such offense.”

53. As defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(c)(7), “specified unlawful activity,” includes, among other things, a violation of “section 206 (relating to penalties) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act,” which is codified at Title 50, United States Code, Section 1705.

54. By reason of the foregoing the Defendants-*in-rem* are subject to forfeiture to the United States pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) as property constituting or derived from proceeds traceable to a conspiracy to violate Title 50, United States Code, Section 1705, or as property traceable to such property.

**Claim Two**

**Forfeiture Under 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C)  
(Proceeds Traceable to Violations of IEEPA)**

55. Paragraphs 1 through 50 of this Complaint are repeated and re-alleged as if fully set forth herein.

56. Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) subjects to civil forfeiture “[a]ny property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to a violation of . . . any offense constituting ‘specified unlawful activity’ (as defined in section 1956(c)(7) of this title), or a conspiracy to commit such offense.”

57. As defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(c)(7), “specified unlawful activity,” includes, among other things, a violation of “section 206 (relating to penalties) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act,” which is codified at Title 50, United States Code, Section 1705.

58. By reason of the foregoing the Defendants-*in-rem* are subject to forfeiture to the United States pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) as property constituting or derived from proceeds traceable to a violation of Title 50, United States Code, Section 1705, or as property traceable to such property.

**Claim Three**

**Forfeiture Under 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(A)  
(Property Involved in International Money Laundering)**

59. Paragraphs 1 through 50 of this Complaint are repeated and re-alleged as if fully set forth herein.

60. Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(A) subjects to civil forfeiture “any property, real or personal, involved in a transaction or attempted transaction in

violation of [Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956], or any property traceable to such property.”

61. In turn, Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(2)(A), prohibits anyone from transporting, transmitting, or transferring, or attempting to transport, transmit, or transfer, a monetary instrument or funds from outside the United States to a place in the United States with the intent to promote the carrying on of specified unlawful activity.

62. As defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(c)(7), “specified unlawful activity,” includes, among other things, a violation of “section 206 (relating to penalties) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act,” which is codified at Title 50, United States Code, Section 1705.

63. By reason of the foregoing the Defendants-*in-rem* are subject to forfeiture to the United States pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(A) as (a) property involved in international money laundering, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(2)(A), or as property traceable to such property, and (b) property of an entity involved in international money laundering, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(2)(A), or as property traceable to such property.

#### **Claim Four**

##### **Forfeiture Under 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(A) (Property Involved in International Money Laundering Conspiracy)**

64. Paragraphs 1 through 50 of this Complaint are repeated and re-alleged as if fully set forth herein.

65. Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(A) subjects to civil forfeiture “any property, real or personal, involved in a transaction or attempted transaction in

violation of [Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956], or any property traceable to such property.”

66. In turn, Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h) provides that “[a]ny person who conspires to commit any offense defined in this section . . . shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the offense the commission of which was the object of the conspiracy.”

67. As defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(c)(7), “specified unlawful activity,” includes, among other things, a violation of “section 206 (relating to penalties) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act,” which is codified at Title 50, United States Code, Section 1705.

68. By reason of the foregoing the Defendants-*in-rem* are subject to forfeiture to the United States pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(A) as (a) property involved in international money laundering conspiracy, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h), or as property traceable to such property, and (b) property of an entity involved in international money laundering conspiracy, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(2)(A), or as property traceable to such property.

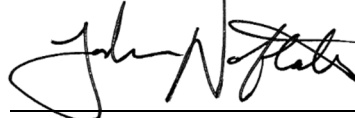
WHEREFORE, plaintiff United States of America prays that process issue to enforce the forfeiture of the Defendants-*in-rem* and that all persons having an interest in the Defendants-*in-rem* be cited to appear and show cause why the forfeiture should not be decreed, and that this Court decree forfeiture of the Defendants-*in-rem* to the United States of America for

disposition according to law, and that this Court grant Plaintiff such further relief as this Court may deem just and proper, together with the costs and disbursements of this action.

Dated: New York, New York  
February 24, 2023

DAMIAN WILLIAMS  
United States Attorney for the  
Southern District of New York  
Attorney for the Plaintiff  
United States of America

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jessica Greenwood', is written over a horizontal line.

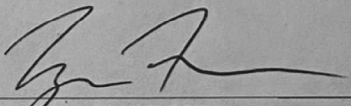
JESSICA GREENWOOD  
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One St. Andrew's Plaza  
New York, New York 10007  
(212) 637-1090/2310/6522



**DECLARATION OF VERIFICATION**

Ryan Fannon, pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 1746, hereby declares under penalty of perjury that he is a Special Agent with the United States Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Investigations; that he has read the foregoing Verified Complaint and knows the contents thereof; that the same is true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief; and that the sources of his information and the grounds of his belief are his personal involvement in the investigation, and conversations with and documents prepared by law enforcement officers and others.

Executed on February 23, 2023

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RYAN FANNON  
Special Agent  
Homeland Security Investigations

## **Exhibit A**

1

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

:

**INDICTMENT**

- v. -

:

23 Cr. \_\_\_\_ ( )

VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO,  
a/k/a "Vladimir Vorontchenko,"

:

23 CRIM 073

:

Defendant.

:

----- X

The Grand Jury charges:

**Overview of the Sanctions Violations and Money Laundering Schemes**

1. From at least in or about April 2018 through at least in or about 2022, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a "Vladimir Vorontchenko," the defendant, and others engaged in a scheme to violate the International Emergency Economic Powers Act ("IEEPA"), 50 U.S.C. §§ 1701 *et seq.*, by conducting U.S. dollar transactions for the benefit of Viktor Vekselberg, a Russian oligarch who was sanctioned by the U.S. Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC"). VORONCHENKO and others further engaged in a scheme to commit international money laundering to promote IEEPA violations.

2. Before and after on or about April 6, 2018, when OFAC sanctioned Vekselberg by designating him as a Specially Designated National ("SDN"), Vekselberg beneficially owned and controlled through shell companies various real properties in the United States (the "Properties") currently worth approximately \$75 million. VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a "Vladimir Vorontchenko," the defendant, a long-time friend and associate of Vekselberg, resided in certain of the Properties. Before OFAC designated Vekselberg as an SDN, VORONCHENKO and others caused U.S. dollar payments to be made to maintain



those properties, and he continued doing so after OFAC designated Vekselberg as an SDN even though VORONCHONKO knew about that designation. In fact, after on or about April 6 2018, VORONCHENKO and others caused at least \$4 million in U.S. dollar payments to be made to maintain the Properties and attempted to sell two of the Properties, without disclosure to or approval from OFAC.

### **The Defendant and His Close Friend Viktor Vekselberg**

3. At all times relevant to this Indictment, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, was a Russian national and a legal permanent resident of the United States who resided in New York, New York, Southampton, New York, Fisher Island, Florida, and Russia. VORONCHENKO held himself out as, and in fact was, a businessman, art collector, and art dealer, and a close friend and business associate of Vekselberg.

4. At all times relevant to this Indictment, Vekselberg, a Russian national, was the founder and chairman of the board of directors of the Renova Group, a Russian conglomerate composed of investment funds and management companies in the energy sector.

### **The Russia Sanctions Regime and Vekselberg’s Designation as a Specially Designated Individual**

5. Enacted in 1977, the IEEPA gives the President of the United States certain powers, defined in 50 U.S.C. § 1702, to deal with any threats with respect to which the President has declared a national emergency and prescribes criminal penalties for violations. Section 1705 provides, in part, that “[i]t shall be unlawful for a person to violate, attempt to violate, conspire to violate, or cause a violation of any license, order, regulation, or prohibition issued under this chapter.” 50 U.S.C. § 1705(a).

6. On or about March 6, 2014, pursuant to his authority under the IEEPA and the National Emergencies Act (“NEA”), 50 U.S.C. § 1601 *et seq.*, the President issued Executive Order (“E.O.”) 13660, declaring a national emergency to deal with the threat posed by the actions and policies of certain persons who had undermined democratic processes and institutions in Ukraine; threatened the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine; and contributed to the misappropriation of Ukraine’s assets.

7. In further response to the actions and policies of the Government of the Russian Federation, including the purported annexation of the Crimea region of Ukraine, the President issued three subsequent Executive Orders that expanded the scope of the national emergency declared in E.O. 13660, pursuant to his authority under IEEPA and the NEA: E.O. 13661, E.O. 13662, and E.O. 13685.

8. Together, these Executive Orders (collectively, “the Russia/Crimea Sanctions”) authorize, among other things, the imposition of sanctions against persons responsible for or complicit in certain activities with respect to Ukraine; against officials of the Government of the Russian Federation; against persons operating in the arms or related material sector of the Russian Federation; and against individuals and entities operating in the Crimea region of Ukraine. On or about May 8, 2014, OFAC issued a set of regulations to implement the Russia/Crimea Sanctions. 31 C.F.R. part 589.

9. The Russia/Crimea Sanctions also block the property and interests in property of individuals and entities listed in the Annex to E.O. 13661 or of those determined by the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the U.S. Secretary of State, to meet the criteria in E.O. 13660, E.O. 13661, E.O. 13662, or E.O. 13685.

10. Blocking sanctions against individuals and entities designated pursuant to the Russia/Crimea Sanctions result in the individuals and entities being listed on the U.S. Treasury Department's List of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons ("SDN List"). Unless otherwise authorized or exempt, transactions conducted by U.S. persons, including U.S. financial institutions, or occurring in the United States, are prohibited if they involve transferring, paying, exporting, withdrawing, or otherwise dealing in the "property" or "interests in property" of an entity or individual listed on the SDN List because of the Russia/Crimea Sanctions. The property and interests in property of an entity that is fifty percent or more owned, whether individually or in the aggregate, directly or indirectly, by one or more persons whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to any part of 31 C.F.R. Chapter V are also blocked, regardless of whether the entity itself is listed.

11. In addition to blocking the property and interests in property of persons and entities on the SDN List, the Russia/Crimea Sanctions further prohibit "the making of any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services by, to, or for the benefit of" any person or entity on the SDN List. *E.g.*, E.O. 13661 § 4(a).

12. An individual or entity may obtain a license from OFAC to transact with an individual or entity on the SDN List. Transacting with an SDN without first obtaining a license from OFAC is a violation of the IEEPA, 50 U.S.C. § 1705(a).

13. On or about April 6, 2018, pursuant to E.O. 13662, OFAC designated Vekselberg as an SDN "for operating in the energy sector of the Russian Federation economy," and designated the Renova Group on the SDN List.

14. On or about April 15, 2021, pursuant to his authorities under the IEEPA, the President issued E.O. 14024, which declared a national emergency with respect to the harmful

foreign activities undertaken by the Russian Federation. To address this national emergency, the President blocked all property and interest in property that were then or thereafter came within the United States or the possession or control of any United States person, or individuals determined by the Secretary of the Treasury to meet one or more enumerated criteria, including individuals determined to operate in the technology or defense sectors of the Russian Federation economy. As with the Russia/Crimea Sanctions, OFAC issued certain regulations related to the E.O. 14024. 31 C.F.R. § 587.

15. On or about March 11, 2022, pursuant to E.O. 14024, OFAC redesignated Vekselberg as an SDN “for having acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, the [Government of the Russian Federation] and also for operating or having operated in the technology sector of the Russian Federation economy,” and blocked Vekselberg’s yacht and private airplane.

#### **The Sanctions Violations and Money Laundering Scheme**

16. From at least in or about April 2018 through at least in or about 2022, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, and others engaged in (a) a scheme to violate the IEEPA by both conducting at least \$4 million in U.S. dollar transactions to maintain the Properties and transferring ownership of the Properties after Vekselberg was designated as SDN on or about April 6, 2018, without disclosure to or approval from OFAC, and (b) a scheme to commit international money laundering by transferring funds into the United States with the intent of promoting IEEPA violations.

#### **Vekselberg-Owned Shell Companies Purchase the Properties**

17. Between in or about 2008 and in or about 2017, Vekselberg, through a series of shell companies that he ultimately owned and controlled, acquired the Properties, specifically:

(a) two apartments on Park Avenue in New York, New York (“Park Avenue Apartment-1” and “Park Avenue Apartment-2” and, collectively, the “Park Avenue Apartments”); (b) an estate in Southampton, New York (the “Southampton House”); (c) an apartment in Fisher Island, Florida (the “Fisher Island Apartment”); and (d) a penthouse apartment in Fisher Island, Florida (the “Fisher Island Penthouse”).

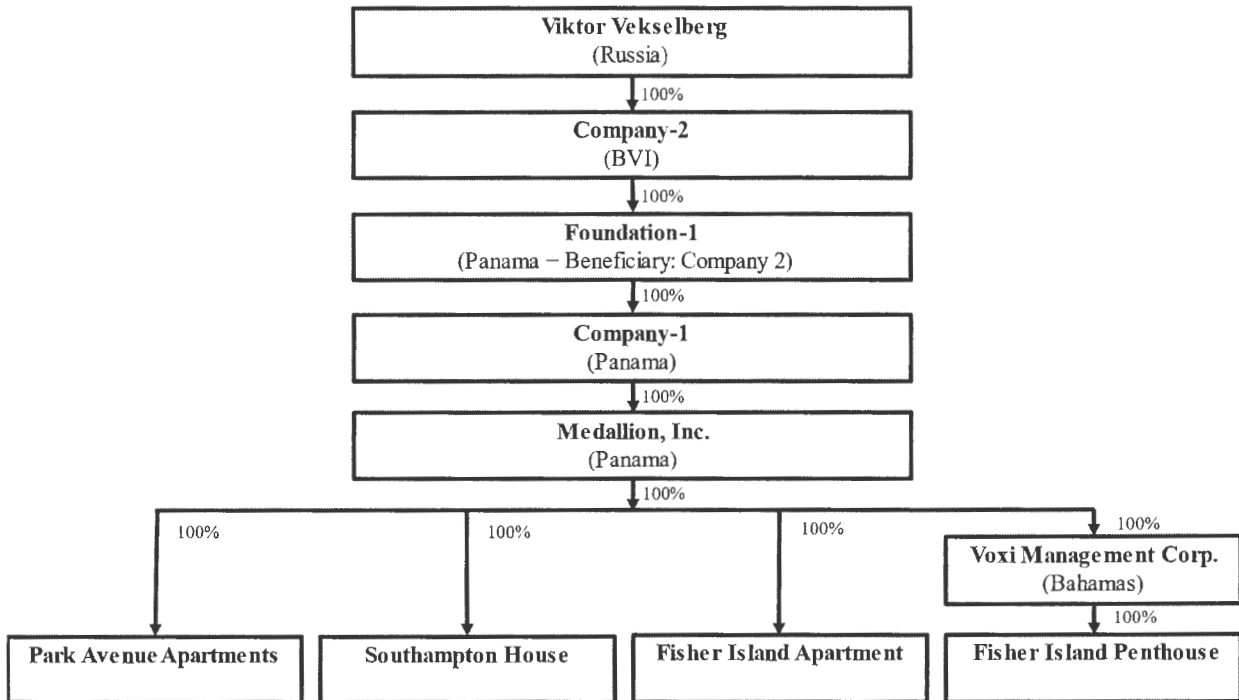
a. The two Vekselberg-owned shell companies used to purchase the Properties were Medallion, Inc. (“Medallion”), a Panamanian company, and Voxi Management Corp. (“Voxi”), a Bahamian company.

b. In particular, Medallion purchased Park Avenue Apartment-1 for approximately \$11 million in or about 2008; Park Avenue Apartment-2 for approximately \$610,000 in 2012; the Southampton House for approximately \$11.4 million in or about 2008; and the Fisher Island Apartment for approximately \$6.2 million in or about 2010.

c. Voxi, which was wholly owned by Medallion, purchased the Fisher Island Penthouse for approximately \$31.2 million in or about 2017.

d. Vekselberg owned and controlled Medallion, and in turn Voxi, through a series of additional shell companies. Medallion was wholly owned by another Panamanian company (“Company-1”), which, in turn, was wholly owned by a Panamanian foundation (“Foundation-1”). The first and exclusive beneficiary of Foundation-1 was a British Virgin Islands company (“Company-2”), of which Vekselberg was the sole owner.

e. The Properties were thus beneficially owned by Vekselberg as shown below:



f. As of the date of this Indictment, Vekselberg remained the ultimate beneficial owner of Medallion and Voxi, which, in turn, continued to own the Properties.

18. To facilitate the purchase of the Properties, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, retained an attorney (the “Attorney”), who practiced in New York, New York, to represent Medallion and Voxi in the acquisition of the Properties. At various times relevant to this Indictment, VORONCHENKO lived in Park Avenue Apartment-1, the Southampton House, and the Fisher Island Apartment.

19. In connection with its consideration of Medallion’s offer to purchase Park Avenue Apartment-1 in or about 2008, the board of managers of the building in which Park Avenue Apartment-1 was located sent an email to the Attorney that asked: “1) Who is behind the purchase of the Apartment? 2) What is the nature of their assets? 3) Who is going to live in the apartment? And what is their relationship to the purchaser?”



20. The Attorney replied by letter, dated on or about January 18, 2008: “[T]he beneficial owner of Unit 21 will be Mr. Viktor Vekselberg. The occupant of the Unit for the next several years will be his cousin, friend and business colleague Vladimir Voronchenko [and Voronchenko’s family].” The Attorney’s letter attached a letter from a director of Medallion that stated, “Mr. Viktor F. Vekselberg . . . is the Ultimate beneficial owner of [Medallion].” The Attorney’s letter also attached a *Forbes* article that listed Vekselberg as the 44th-richest person in the world, with a net worth of \$10 billion.

21. In or about 2012, in a lawsuit in the Southern District of New York related to renovations of Park Avenue Apartment-1, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, testified under oath at a deposition (the “Deposition”).

a. During the Deposition, VORONCHENKO described his relationship with Vekselberg as follows:

From the beginning, we live in one small West Ukrainian city. We are from this city together, you know, we — we are friends from the very small age. Our families friend and we studied in one school and we continue our relation all our life. . . .

He’s my very, very close friend. If you open the Internet and my, for example, name, you will see a lot of publications where we are together, this, this, and this, many, many, many times, you know. And we’re really very close friends . . . . You can check it even by Russian press, you know.

b. During the Deposition, VOROCHENKO described his business, including with Vekselberg, as follows:

I have different business. I am involved in art, in luxury business, something like that. In foundation, in museums. I built in Russia now two museums, big one. First two private museums in Russia. Because we have with my friend, Viktor [Vekselberg], has huge collection, and we started to build, like, a home for the collection.

c. During the Deposition, VORONCHENKO testified that Medallion was a real estate investment company and that Vekselberg was the “main owner of this huge group,” including Medallion.

22. In connection with the purchase of the Fisher Island Apartment, Medallion, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” and a family member of VORONCHENKO (“Family Member-1”) each applied for membership in a private club on Fisher Island (the “Club”) in or about May 2010. As part of that application, the Attorney submitted an affidavit from a director of Medallion, which stated, in part, that the “ultimate beneficial owner of [Medallion] is Viktor Vekselberg,” and that VORONCHENKO and his family would be living in the Fisher Island Apartment “not pursuant to a lease or compensated occupancy of any kind.”

VORONCHENKO Engages in Illegal U.S. Dollar Transactions  
to Maintain the Properties After Vekselberg’s Designation as an SDN

23. VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, hired the Attorney to manage the finances of the Properties, including to pay common charges, property taxes, insurance premiums, and other fees associated with the Properties. The Attorney conducted these U.S. dollar transactions using the Attorney’s interest on lawyer’s trust account (“IOLTA Account”).

24. Prior to Vekselberg’s designation as an SDN on or about April 6, 2018, between approximately February 2009 and March 2018, Medallion and Company-1 — both of which were beneficially owned by Vekselberg — sent approximately 90 wire transfers totaling approximately \$18.5 million to the IOLTA Account. At the direction of VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, and another family member of VORONCHENKO who lived in Russia (“Family Member-2”), the Attorney used these funds



to make various U.S. dollar payments to maintain and service the Properties. These payments included tax payments, common charge payments, insurance premium payments, and other maintenance costs.

25. VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, was aware of Vekselberg’s designation as an SDN on or about April 6, 2018. In response, on or about May 9, 2018, approximately one month after Vekselberg’s designation, VORONCHENKO sent a WhatsApp message to an associate (“Individual-1”) with a link to the website of a law firm in Washington, D.C. that specialized only in OFAC sanctions. On or about December 8, 2018, VORONCHENKO sent a WhatsApp message to Individual-1 containing a link to an article that discussed Vekselberg’s designation as an SDN.

26. After Vekselberg’s designation as an SDN on or about April 6, 2018, Medallion and Company-1 — both ultimately beneficially owned and controlled by Vekselberg — stopped wiring funds to the Attorney’s IOLTA Account. Instead, starting in or about June 2018, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, and Family Member-2 changed the source of the funds used to maintain and service the Properties to two VORONCHENKO-linked sources. The IOLTA Account received wires from a bank account in the Bahamas held in the name of “Smile Holding Ltd.,” a shell company owned and controlled by VORONCHENKO, and from a Russian bank account held in the name of a relative of VORONCHENKO who lived in Russia (“Individual-2”). Between approximately June 2018 and March 2022, Smile Holding Ltd. and Individual-2 collectively sent approximately 25 international wire transfers totaling approximately \$4 million to the IOLTA Account in the United States. Although the source of the payments changed after the imposition of sanctions on Vekselberg, the management of the payments remained the same as before. At VORONCHENKO’s and Family

Member-2's direction, the Attorney continued to use these funds to make various U.S. dollar payments to maintain and service the Properties between approximately June 2018 and March 2022. No licenses from OFAC were applied for or issued for these payments.

VORONCHENKO's Attempted Sale of the Southampton House and  
the Park Avenue Apartments in Violation of U.S. Sanctions

27. In or about August 2020, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a "Vladimir Vorontchenko," and others attempted to sell the Southampton House. Medallion, represented by the Attorney, entered into an agreement with a real estate brokerage firm ("Brokerage-1") to sell the Southampton House, which was ultimately listed for sale for approximately \$14.6 million in or about September 2020. No license from OFAC was applied for or issued for the sale of the Southampton House. Brokerage-1 delisted the Southampton House in or about August 2021.

28. In or about December 2021, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a "Vladimir Vorontchenko," and others attempted to sell the Park Avenue Apartments. Medallion entered into an agreement with a real estate brokerage firm ("Brokerage-2") to sell the Park Avenue Apartments, which were ultimately listed for sale for approximately \$14.6 million in or about early 2022. The Attorney signed the listing agreement on behalf of Medallion, and a family member of VORONCHENKO ("Family Member-3") communicated primarily with Brokerage-2 about the listing. No license from OFAC was applied for or issued for the sale of the Park Avenue Apartments. Brokerage-2 delisted the Park Avenue Apartments in or about June 2022, after receiving a Grand Jury subpoena.

VORONCHENKO's Flight After Receiving a Grand Jury Subpoena

29. On or about May 13, 2022, federal agents served VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a "Vladimir Vorontchenko," the defendant, at the Fisher Island Apartment

with a subpoena issued by a Grand Jury sitting in the Southern District of New York, which called for his personal appearance for testimony and his production of documents on or about May 31, 2022.

30. On or about May 15, 2022, two days after receiving the Grand Jury subpoena, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, sent a WhatsApp message to Individual-1 containing a link to an article, dated May 15, 2022, discussing the OFAC sanctions against Vekselberg.

31. Approximately nine days after receiving the Grand Jury subpoena, on or about May 22, 2022, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, booked and took a flight from Miami, Florida to Dubai, United Arab Emirates. VORONCHENKO’s return flight to Miami was scheduled for on or about May 30, 2022, but he did not take this flight. Instead, on or about May 25, 2022, VORONCHENKO booked a flight to Moscow, Russia, which departed from Dubai the next day.

32. VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, did not appear before the Grand Jury on or about May 31, 2022, as required by the Grand Jury subpoena. Nor did he appear at subsequent dates to which his appearance was adjourned, specifically, on or about June 14, 2022 and on or about June 30, 2022.

33. VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, VORONCHENKO still has not returned to the United States.

**COUNT ONE**  
**(Conspiracy to Violate the International Emergency Economic Powers Act)**

The Grand Jury further charges:

34. The allegations set forth above in Paragraphs 1 through 33 are realleged and incorporated by reference as if set fully forth herein.

35. From at least in or about April 2018 through at least in or about 2022, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, and others known and unknown, willfully and knowingly did combine, conspire, confederate, and agree together and with each other, to violate the IEEPA, in violation of 50 U.S.C. § 1705, Executive Orders 13660, 13661, and 13662, and 31 C.F.R. § 589.201.

36. It was a part and an object of the conspiracy that VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, and others known and unknown, would and did willfully and knowingly violate the IEEPA, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, to wit, VORONCHENKO and his coconspirators willfully and knowingly caused United States persons to provide funds, goods, and services to and for the benefit of Vekselberg, whom OFAC had listed as a Specially Designated National on or about April 6, 2018, and to and for the benefit of companies and properties owned and controlled by Vekselberg, and caused United States persons to receive funds, goods, and services from Vekselberg, and from companies owned and controlled by Vekselberg, and did and attempted to transfer, pay, export, withdraw, and otherwise deal in interests in property in the United States held by Vekselberg, without first obtaining the required approval of OFAC, in violation of Executive Orders 13660, 13661, and 13662, and 31 C.F.R. § 589.201, and engaged in and attempted to engage in

transactions that evaded and avoided and caused a violation of Executive Orders 13660, 13661, and 13662, and 31 C.F.R. § 589.201.

(Title 50, United States Code, Section 1705; Executive Orders 13660, 13661, and 13662, and Title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 589.201.)

## **COUNT TWO**

### **(Violation of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act)**

The Grand Jury further charges:

37. The allegations set forth above in Paragraphs 1 through 33 are realleged and incorporated by reference as if set fully forth herein.

38. From at least in or about April 2018 through at least in or about 2022, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, willfully and knowingly violated the IEEPA, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, to wit, VORONCHENKO willfully and knowingly caused United States persons to provide funds, goods, and services to and for the benefit of Vekselberg, whom OFAC had listed as a Specially Designated National on or about April 6, 2018, and to and for the benefit of companies and properties owned and controlled by Vekselberg, and caused United States persons to receive funds, goods, and services from Vekselberg, and from companies owned and controlled by Vekselberg, and did and attempted to transfer, pay, export, withdraw, and otherwise deal in interests in property in the United States held by Vekselberg, without first obtaining the required approval of OFAC, in violation of Executive Orders 13660, 13661, and 13662, and 31 C.F.R. § 589.201, and engaged in and attempted to engage in transactions that evaded and avoided and caused a violation of Executive Orders 13660, 13661, and 13662, and 31 C.F.R. § 589.201.

(Title 50, United States Code, Section 1705; Executive Orders 13660, 13661, and 13662; Title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 589.201; and 18 U.S.C. § 2.)



**COUNT THREE**  
**(Conspiracy to Commit International Money Laundering)**

The Grand Jury further charges:

39. The allegations set forth above in Paragraphs 1 through 33 are realleged and incorporated by reference as if set fully forth herein.

40. From at least in or about April 2018 through at least in or about 2022, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, and others known and unknown, willfully and knowingly did conspire to commit a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(2)(a).

41. It was a part and an object of the conspiracy that VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, and others known and unknown, would and did willfully and knowingly transport, transmit, and transfer, and attempt to transport, transmit, and transfer a monetary instrument and funds from a place in the United States to and through a place outside the United States and to a place in the United States from and through a place outside the United States with the intent to promote the carrying on of specified unlawful activity, to wit, violations of the IEEPA, in violation of 50 U.S.C. § 1705, Executive Orders 13660, 13661, and 13662, and 31 C.F.R. § 589.201.

(Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h).)

**COUNT FOUR**  
**(International Money Laundering)**

The Grand Jury further charges:

42. The allegations set forth above in Paragraphs 1 through 33 are realleged and incorporated by reference as if set fully forth herein.

43. From at least in or about April 2018 through at least in or about 2022, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, willfully and knowingly did transport, transmit, and transfer, and attempt to transport, transmit, and transfer a monetary instrument and funds from a place in the United States to and through a place outside the United States and to a place in the United States from and through a place outside the United States with the intent to promote the carrying on of specified unlawful activity, to wit, violations of IEEPA, in violation of 50 U.S.C. § 1705, Executive Orders 13660, 13661, and 13662, and 31 C.F.R. § 589.201.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1956(a)(2)(A) and 2.)

**COUNT FIVE**  
**(Contempt of Court)**

The Grand Jury further charges:

44. The allegations set forth above in Paragraphs 1 through 33 are realleged and incorporated by reference as if set fully forth herein.

45. On or about June 14, 2022 and June 30, 2022, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, willfully and knowingly disobeyed and resisted a lawful writ, process, order, decree, and command of a court of the United States, to wit, VORONCHENKO failed to appear before a Grand Jury in the Southern District of New York on or about June 14, 2022 and on or about June 30, 2022, as required by a Grand Jury subpoena, dated on or about May 11, 2022.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 401(3) and 2.)

### **FORFEITURE ALLEGATIONS**

46. As a result of committing the offenses alleged in Counts One and Count Two of this Indictment, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, shall forfeit to the United States, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), all property, real and personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the commission of the offenses alleged in Count One and Count Two, including but not limited to a sum of money in United States currency representing the amount of proceeds traceable to the commission of said offenses and the following specific property:

- a. Medallion, Inc., a Panamanian company;
- b. Voxi Management Corp., a Bahamian company;
- c. 515 Park Avenue, Apartments 21 & 2I, New York, New York 10022;
- d. 19 Duck Pond Lane, Southampton, New York 11968;
- e. 7182-1873 Fisher Island, Apts. 7182 & 7183, Fisher Island, Florida 33109; and
- f. 7002 Fisher Island, Apt. 7002 PH2, Fisher Island Florida 33109.

47. As a result of committing the offenses alleged in Count Three and Count Four of this Indictment, VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant, shall forfeit to the United States, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(1), any and all property, real and personal, involved in said offense, or any property traceable to such property, including but not limited to a sum of money in United States currency representing the amount of property involved in said offense and the following specific property:



- a. Medallion, Inc., a Panamanian company;
- b. Voxi Management Corp., a Bahamian company;
- c. 515 Park Avenue, Apartments 21 & 2I, New York, New York 10022;
- d. 19 Duck Pond Lane, Southampton, New York 11968;
- e. 7182-1873 Fisher Island, Apts. 7182 & 7183, Fisher Island, Florida 33109; and
- f. 7002 Fisher Island, Apt. 7002 PH2, Fisher Island Florida 33109.

Substitute Asset Provision

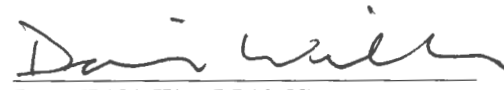
48. If any of the property described above as being subject to forfeiture, as a result of any act or omission of VLADIMIR VORONCHENKO, a/k/a “Vladimir Vorontchenko,” the defendant,

- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty;

it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461 to seek forfeiture of any other property of the defendant up to the value of the forfeitable property described above.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981; Title 21, United States Code, Section 853; and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461.)

  
FOREPERSON

  
DAMIAN WILLIAMS  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY